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## Hope celebrates progress

Students and staff watch inauguration; march across campus in commemoration

**Emily West**  
CAMPUS NEWS EDITOR

On Inauguration Day, Tuesday, Jan. 19, Hope College Student Congress and the Office of Multicultural Education presented a panel discussion followed by the viewing of the Barack Obama’s presidential inauguration. Hope history professor Fred Johnson moderated the panel of Donald Luidens of the Sociology Department, Jeffrey Polet of the Political Science Department and Philana Greene (’10).

Director of Multicultural Education Vanessa Greene opened the event and said, “This is a great time for us to look around the world at what’s happening.”

Luidens recaptured his own



PHOTO BY KEVIN SOUBLY

**STUDENTS WATCH INAUGURATION IN PHELPS—** In collaboration with civil rights week, students were invited to watch President Barack Obama’s inauguration in Phelps dining hall.

experience as a Hope student, 41 years ago, when Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated. “We experienced his assassination in a very real way,” he said.

Some of the Holland

community gathered for a commemorative service following King’s death. Still, people drove by honking and yelling from their cars, outraged by a gathering in honor of King.

people, voted for Obama. “The systems in which we classify are active residues of an active narrative that are still being worked out,” said Polet.

SEE CIVIL RIGHTS, PAGE 2

## Hope works to increase diversity on campus

**Christine Hostettler**  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Although it not a popular fact, Hope College is a generally homogeneous institution compared to the population that constitutes the United States today. Many students and faculty alike would like to see Hope change and start to better reflect our country’s population and are striving to attract more students of racial and ethnic minority.

The question is: How can a small institution like Hope College attract a larger number of these students?

According to Stacey Goetz of the Office of Admissions, it takes “a bunch of initiatives that we do with different programs all over campus.”

The recruiting staff in the Admissions Office are eager to contact minority students in an effort to let them know about Hope College, and there is a team especially devoted to multi-cultural recruitment.

There are certain nights when faculty members call these potential students specifically.

According to Brent Krueger, chair of the Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid, Tuesday night of Jan. 26, is the “penultimate [faculty] calling night,” as volunteer faculty members call prospective minority students who “have expressed sincere interest in Hope College, but have not yet applied.”

There are also the “SOC” (Students of Color) callers, a small group of student volunteers who have chosen to reach out specifically to potential minority students.

Robin Baker (’10), a former SOC caller said, “Our title sounds weird, exclusive, but it is about trying to get more diversity at Hope ... It’s really cool because you get to keep calling the same kids all year and get to know them, develop a personal relationship with them and then you show them around campus when they visit.”

Baker talked about the satisfaction she gets from seeing students around campus that she helped decide in the decision-making process by calling.

SEE RECRUIT, PAGE 2

## Last lecture; Learn truths, live with passion

**Rob Guimond**  
ARTS ASSISTANT EDITOR

The guru advocated living life fearlessly, learning from the truths that are everywhere and acting with passion and commitment in the latest lecture from the Hope College “The Last Lecture Series” produced by Mortar Board.

Dr. Boyd Wilson, the guru, or Chacha, as he encourages his students to call him, gave an address deeply rooted in faith Jan. 26 as he expounded the lessons that he had discovered through his studies in world religion.

Wilson explained, however, that though this faith found its beginnings in Christianity, it now encompasses Hinduism, Buddhism, and Islam.

“I still teach from the perspective of what I have learned from other religions,” wrote Wilson in his lecture notes. The expansion of beliefs was a theme throughout the address.

“I value the fact that he wants to leave his students with the

insight that he has on life,” said Alison Watchorn (’09). “I’m a senior trying to find some happiness and successes off the beaten path that everyone is taking. I wanted to see if this lecture could provide me with some hints to what that might look like.”

Professor Wilson encouraged his audience to live without fear. This idea was one of his Zen moments or “that point of instantaneous, intuitive insight when suddenly you know for the very first time that which you have always known to be true.” This Zen moment changed the way he studied, taught and lived.

Living without fear eventually led Wilson to his second Zen Moment: the realization that “Truth is truth, and I can learn it!” He explained that sources of

truth are everywhere. Eastern religions as well as Christianity all have truths to offer.

He said, “I was not afraid that granting truth to other religions was somehow denying truths to Christianity.” The professor urged his audience to capitalize on truths regardless of their source.

The last Zen moment that Wilson related was, “Whatever it is that you do, you must do it with passion and commitment.” He explained that to make one’s actions important to oneself and to other that person must do it with passion and commitment.

Professor Wilson closed the lecture with two simple, personal and experienced truths. The first truth was love, or the necessity for a person to “find that sense of commitment, make that

promise, and live in love.” The second truth was success, or the necessity for a person to, “Find that sense of success, find that joy that allows you to throw your hands up at the end of each day and proclaim: ‘This is my job! This is what I do!’”

Krista Mehari (’09) gave her thoughts on the Last Lecture Series: “It is a fantastic opportunity for students to hear from professors we respect about important life issues--things that are bigger than when the test is, or what the requirements are for the next paper. It gives the professors an opportunity to share their personal insights and experiences with a large group of students.”

Mortar Board has two more lectures scheduled this year in the series. Bill Mayer, an art professor specializing in sculpture, is scheduled to speak on March 2. Donald Cronkite, professor of biology, is scheduled to speak on April 20. Both lectures will be in the Maas Auditorium at 7 p.m.



**Visiting Writers Series—** Poet Lynne Thompson visits campus this month.

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**Title IX—** Hope club sports vie for varsity status.

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## THIS WEEK AT HOPE

**Wednesday Feb. 4****Gender Power Politics and the Media in the 2008 Presidential Election**

3:30 p.m. Mass Auditorium. Guest speaker Kathleen Hall Jamieson visits Hope.

**Thursday Feb. 5****Resume Lock-in**

8:00-11:00 p.m. Martha Miller Computer Lab. For all students who need to start, update or improve their resume. Sponsored by the Office of Career Services.

**Friday Feb. 6****Wear Red Day**

Students and faculty are encouraged to wear red to work or class and donate \$5 in exchange for a Red Dress Pin. Donations will help the American Heart Association raise awareness of cardiovascular disease.

**Wednesday Feb. 11****Men's Basketball Game**

7:30 p.m. Hope vs. Calvin. At Calvin College.

**Friday Feb. 13****Great Performance Series: Aquila Theatre**

7:30 p.m. Knickerbocker Theatre. (Also Saturday, Feb. 14)

**Saturday Feb. 14****Women's Basketball Hosts Adrian**

DeVos Fieldhouse. 3 p.m.

**Monday Feb. 16****Visting Writers Series**

Features GLCA New Writers Award winner, Lynne Thompson. Knickerbocker Theatre. Jazz begins at 6:30.

## IN BRIEF

## FIVE FACULTY ANNOUNCE RETIREMENT

Judy Hillman, associate professor of art and design; Dr. Michael Silver, professor of biochemistry and chemistry; Raymond Smith, professor of kinesiology and director of athletics for men; Dr. John Stoughton, associate professor of mathematics; and Dr. Stephen Taylor, professor of chemistry all announced that they plan to retire at the end of the school year.

Hillman has been at Hope since 1989. She has been heavily involved with numerous community art projects.

Silver has been at Hope since 1983. In 1997, he was awarded the Provost's Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Smith has been at Hope since 1970. He has coached baseball, golf, wrestling and football at Hope.

Stoughton has been at Hope since 1983. Here, he has mentored several students through faculty-student research.

Taylor has been at Hope since 1985. In 1995, he received one of eight national "Camille and Henry Dreyfus Scholar/Fellow Awards for Undergraduate Institutions."

# Hope focuses on civil rights

♦ **CIVIL RIGHTS**, from page 1

"The bigger danger is that people will say we're all done now and the civil rights battle is over," Polet said.

Philana Greene agreed that the categorization seems inevitable. "I think people in the United States have to put people in a certain group to understand them," said Philana Greene.

Greene also acknowledged that the fight is not over. "We are starting to see things that we never thought we would see...We need to continue the discussion about how people of all races, genders or sexual orientations are still not considered equal," Greene said.

"People got so caught up in Obama versus McCain. They almost forgot that Clinton almost beat out Obama," said Greene. "Now, a young African American couple can tell their children that they could be president. They can even tell their daughters that."

Johnson wrapped up the debate and said, "The only thing that we know for sure is that this is a day for celebration...The rest of us must put our hands to the task to make sure things get done."

On Wednesday, Jan. 21, the Commemorative Civil Rights March brought about two dozen Hope students and faculty out to remember, reflect and hope for further progress. The march began at the anchor outside of Graves Hall.

Professor Chuck Green, director of the Phelps Scholar Program and professor of psychology, started the march



PHOTO BY HOLLY EVENHOUSE

**COMMEMORATING CIVIL RIGHTS—** Hope students and faculty gathered at the anchor outside Graves hall and marched to the Martha Miller Center.

by honoring Bob Zellner. Zellner was the son and grandson of Klu Klux Klan members, but he chose to defy his upbringing

“As domestic and global violations of human rights continue, our community must courageously stand against these injustices.

—**AYANFE OLONADE ('10)**

“the name of civil rights.” Hagood said.

At the next stop, just outside Lubbers Hall, Jonathan Hagood of the History Department spoke about the significance of the Mendez v. Westminster

court case that paved the way for California to become the first state to desegregate public schools.

“T h e e q u a l i t y they fought for extends beyond this case and calls for each of us to recognize the achievements all group have attained in

the name of civil rights.” Hagood said.

Gay-Straight forum representatives, Marissa Grott ('09) and Lindsay Sweet ('11), remembered the tragic death of

Matthew Shepard.

Shepard was a student at the University of Wyoming who was beaten and left for dead. The trial of the suspected attackers confirmed that the violence was targeted at Shepard because of his sexual orientation.

The march ended in the first floor rotunda of the Martha Miller Center. Ayanfe Olonade ('10), of the International Relations Club, read about the crisis in Darfur.

“As domestic and global violations of human rights continue, our community must courageously stand against these injustices,” Olonade said.

# Minority recruitment advances

♦ **RECRUIT**, from page 1

Once a semester, the Office of Multi-Cultural Education holds Taste of Hope, a visitation weekend specifically for multicultural prospective students.

This semester's event took place from Saturday Jan. 31 to Sunday, Feb. 1. Students stayed in Scott Hall and learned about the different multi-cultural programs Hope offers, as well as doing the regular visitation, touring the campus and visiting classes.

Goetz talked about Hope College students who are really interested in diversifying Hope's campus.

Regarding the goal of Taste of Hope, Goetz said, "Our students really want to give an honest vision of Hope—(multi-cultural students) have a support network, but they are also getting a realistic vision of what Hope is like."

Through calling and visiting, potential multicultural students are told about organizations and networks on campus that can

help them feel at home.

Goetz said, "I like to tell students about the Phelps Scholar Program because that's an immediate support network, a great way to get plugged in with students and profs... The biggest thing, though, is to get them connected with other students."

Many Phelps Scholars choose to live in Scott Hall, a co-ed dorm for first-year students, where students participate in a first-year seminar, bi-monthly meetings, field trips, community service and Encounter with Cultures class.

According to Director Vanessa Greene on the Office of Multicultural Education's website, "Our primary objective is to develop collaborative partnerships with students, faculty, staff, alumni and the greater Holland community to embrace and infuse diversity into the core fabric of the institution."

There are also several student organizations on campus aimed at affirming and encouraging

the awareness and sharing of different cultures and ethnicities, including HAPA (Hope Asian Perspective), LaRU (La Raza Unida) and the Black Student Union.

Students can join these organizations regardless of "race, religion, gender or nationality" for events like dinners, food festivals, movie nights, speakers and discussions.

Also, the Office of Multicultural Education and the Crossroads Project is currently sponsoring a Multicultural Essay contest whose entry deadline is Monday, Feb. 25.

Although it is still fairly low, the number of multicultural students at Hope has slowly been on the rise over the last several years, due largely in part to stronger recruiting efforts.

Garrett Knoth of the Admissions Office said, "This (increase in the number of multi-cultural students) is not something that is growing by leaps and bounds; it has been slowly increasing... The really key thing is the grassroots

movements here in Holland."

Lately admissions representatives are targeting more local high schools and youth organizations in the area, such as the Boys' and Girls' Club of Holland, Upward Bound and the Reach Program, drawing in high school students from local communities.

Admissions efforts continue to be far-reaching also, as there are admissions representatives recruiting in such diverse places as China, Turkey and New York.

"We were included recently in the book Colleges That Change Lives, and that has really helped us reach more cultures," said Knoth.

Goetz said, "I think our best recruitment is having students participate and help out. If students are interested in helping out, there are jobs and volunteer opportunities available. It is good for people to know we are doing things and are having some success, but we'd love some help. The starts we've made are big for a little school."



## PERSPECTIVES



PHOTO BY JOSEPH SEYMOUR

# Hope students join 'Obamob'

**Joseph Seymour**  
GUEST WRITER

The darkness partially concealed the chaos of those early Inaugural hours. I departed my apartment at 5 a.m. with four other silver ticket holders, and we naively believed we had left early enough.

Coincidentally, many, many, many other people had the same idea. Our specific ticket line was already seven bodies wide and several

thousand deep, streaming down Independence Street. We settled in at—what we perceived in the teeming shadows—the end, only to later see the line extend blocks behind us. It was 5:30 a.m., or three hours until the line was scheduled to move.

On several occasions, security forces acted as a bariatric surgeon, streamlining the throngs into smaller, more manageable groups, all neatly on the sidewalk. However, the stitches would burst and people again ignored the line behind and swelled into the street. It made me both sick and fascinated. In the vacuum of authority, a man in a red coat began to take the situation into his own hands. With only a patient demeanor, he directed more people towards the end of the line than the 25,000 police officers around the Mall.

There were moments when I was nervous for my safety; not from terrorists, but from the sheer size and mentality of the crowd. When people would cut the queue for the Silver line, we began to yell “No You Can’t” at them in an ironic way. When our

line began moving after idling for three hours, hordes of angry and desperate individuals ran from across the street, hoping to penetrate our line. We held the line in a phalanx-like determination and were not flanked.

For all the concern over security, I realized once inside the gate that my ticket had never been looked at or judged for authenticity. I had received a brief pat down and then ran for my life across the front mall to get a prime spot. The four of us squeezed our way into the front mall standing area, near the front reflecting pool. At that spot, we stood for roughly 1.5 hours, all the while praying that only short people would squeeze their way in front of us. Much to my chagrin, the tallest man in all of DC decided to stand in my way with an obnoxiously large hat. I was close to losing my sanity. And then it happened.

Barack Obama has the unique potential to transform this coun-

try. To many he is the first post-racial and post-Vietnam president, a chance to split with the past. On that awfully cold Tuesday morning, the crowd picked up on Obama’s message of hope and change. Not only did the crowds break down racial barriers, but they broke down physical ones as well. Maybe it was the severe cold or lack of sleep. Maybe it was a highly contagious form of Barack-fever. Regardless, the mob in my area destroyed the fences separating them from the handicapped sections, and I witnessed a reverse Moses. We spilled over the trampled fences and poured around the reflecting pool without a single officer holding us back. I suppose that was the personification of “Hope.”

A few thousand ticket holders, though, weren’t so lucky. Hope junior Andy Palkowski, an intern in Rep. Camp’s office, thought himself blessed to possess a purple standing ticket. In an ideal world, he would have been in the inner circle of the reserved area, close enough to hear Obama without amplification. What actually followed was deeply saddening.

“We ended up standing in a tunnel (beneath the Mall) for three hours, moving a total of 300 yards, never seeing the light of day...until we turned to

go home,” Palkowski said. His story is identical to 4,000 purple and blue ticket holders, who according to the Senate sergeant-at-arms, were victims of too many printed tickets and a lack of security personnel. Some argue that the best seat for the Inauguration was in front of a TV on a coach, but Palkowski thinks otherwise.

My new standing spot was roughly 150 yards to the podium and 20 yards from a jumbo-tron. As prominent politicians paraded to their reserved chairs, some received heckles while others were met with applause. Colin Powell was given praise, Sen. Joe Lieberman was violently booed, and Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas was hissed at. The

later action confused me; how could an ‘Obamob’ hate on a Justice of all people? This—as I was woefully unaware—was the most

politically astute mob that had ever been assembled. I defended Justice Thomas, but a short older black woman countered me when she described him as “arrogant.” Our argument didn’t last too long.

At last, Obama took the jumbled oath and stole the show. He spoke with an FDR-ish balance of reality, optimism, aggression, renewal, and scripture. We

SEE **OBAMOB**, PAGE 10

## Sudanese president sought for Darfur crimes

**Lindsey Bandy**

ASST. NATIONAL NEWS EDITOR

Tensions have been rising since July when the chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Court began his quest for an arrest warrant against the current Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir for his role in the events in the country’s region of Darfur.

The International Court alleged that Bashir is the mastermind behind the operation of murder, rape and exile. As a result, the president is being charged with genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity for his role in the events that have taken place in Darfur.

The unrest began in 2003 when rebel groups began a rebellion in search of restoration from social and economic injustices while demanding greater political power.

The region of Darfur is a severely neglected and underdeveloped area by the government. When the uprising began six years ago, the government saw it as a serious threat, fearing that other neglected areas would also rise in rebellion.

Despite the continuous denial from the Sudanese government, there are facts pointing to the government officials as the main coordinators of the violence, employing the Janjaweed along with troops to implement the mass extermination of men, women and children.

The U.N. estimated that in the past six years over 300,000 people have died and up to 3 million others have been displaced in the region.

It is expected that the World Court will grant the warrant-sometime in early February. It is feared, however, that this decision could have detrimental effects on the current aid efforts in Sudan as well as peace talks with the rebel forces. At a press conference in early October, Bashir said an indictment would not only disrupt peace talks with the rebel groups but will be catastrophic on the regions stability in the upcoming political elections.

Several aid workers fear that a result of the indictment could be their removal from the country leaving refugees exposed to hunger and vulnerable to even more violence.

John Holmes, the U.N.’s emergency relief coordinator in an interview with Newsweek said in regard to possible effects of an indictment, “Ultimately, they could throw everyone out. It will leave them with a terrible mess and they won’t be able to feed their own people. We’ve told them ‘we expect you to leave our operation alone’

SEE **SUDAN**, PAGE 10



THIS WEEK IN NEWS

“This town is being forced to look at things they never wanted to look at before”  
– Brenda Cherry, Paris, Texas, resident and cofounder of the Concerned Citizens for Racial Equality, on the brutal death of Brandon McClelland

“I got that call that we were going to the Supreme Court, that was almost as good as a win, and I really felt that I had a really good shot at getting this through.”  
– Lilly Ledbetter, a former manufacturing worker, on winning a 10- year battle for men and women receiving equal pay, having President Obama just sign the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act.

“And these kids are driving to the West Side of Chicago at 3 o’clock in the morning to deal with gangbangers, for Christ’s sake. It just shows what this drug does to your thinking—it wipes out your logic, your morals, your ties to your family.”  
– Vince Solano a lawyer in a reopened murder case in St. Charles Ill., on the inability to understand how so many privileged young people fall to heroin.

“He apologized for his inappropriate behavior. We have no reason to doubt his sincerity and his commitment to continue to act as a role model.”  
– The International Olympic Committee, on Michael Phelps being photographed with marijuana.

“Great players step up in big-time games to make plays”  
– Santonio Holmes, the Super Bowl MVP, on the Steelers record- setting win.

“We’ve thrown everything we have at it. We’re going to continue to do that until everyone is back in their homes and back on their feet.”  
– Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear, on the response to the devastating ice storm

“Put the chicken fingers down and turn the television all the way up!”  
– Bruce Springsteen, Super Bowl halftime performer talking to those watching the Super Bowl halftime show from home.

“Globalization has really allowed injustice to really go global.”  
–Julie Size, director of the Environmental Justice Project at the University of California, Davis, on the scope of environmental injustice.

Obama inauguration sets record cost

Colton Wright  
STAFF WRITER

Leading up to the inauguration, media reports from both sides of the political spectrum chastised the estimated \$150 million cost of President Barack Obama’s swearing in ceremonies. The reports from Fox News all the way to MSNBC blasted the incoming presidency for nearly quadrupling the cost of the 2005 inauguration of George W. Bush.

“The cost of Obama’s inaugural will dwarf past celebrations and make those of President Bush’s look like budget bashes,” said Fox News commentator Sean Hannity in his personal blog.

MSNBC went a step further and suggested on Jan. 14 that the \$150 million tab only covered parties and activities.

Did the new administration really spend that much on “parties and activities?” Factcheck.org, a nonprofit and nonpartisan website, says no.

According to the site, the \$150 million estimated cost of Obama’s inauguration included the security costs reported by the federal government, the District of Columbia, Virginia and Maryland and the cost of the celebration.

The reported \$42 million and \$33 million cost of former Presidents Bush and Clinton, respectively, did not include security. In 2005, U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge said he could not estimate security costs for Bush’s inauguration.

In 2005, the New York Times reported that the federal government and the District of Columbia spent over \$115 million mostly for security for Bush’s inauguration. That figure did not include the costs reported by Maryland and Virginia.

To date, Obama’s inauguration marks the first time reported inauguration costs have



GRAPHIC BY KARIE LUIDENS  
PHOTO BY JOE SEYMOUR

included security costs.

Security was not taken lightly at the event. The District of Columbia doubled the size of its police force with the aid of 8,000 police officers from around the U.S. Over 10,000 National Guard troops were also on duty as well as a team of Secret Service countersnipers hidden across the area. Officials have not disclosed the entirety of security measures in respect of national security. However, spectators noted the abundance

of military humvees and other tactical vehicles. A stronger than ever military and police presence was necessary for the

event. Although no official count was tallied for attendance at the inauguration, the National Park Service stated that it would use the 1.8 million figure reported by the Washington Post in its records. In retrospect, only 400,000 spectators were estimated in attendance of George W. Bush’s 2001 inauguration.

SEE COST, PAGE 10

America prepares itself for a green revolution

Laura Stritzke  
STAFF WRITER

President Obama called on Americans to enter “a new age of responsibility” during his inauguration speech. During the first week of his presidency, he directed the Environmental Protection Agency to reconsider a waiver requested by California and 13 other states to set stricter standards on emissions than current federal requirements demand.

Before leaving office, President Bush signed legislation that would raise the corporate average fuel economy to 36 miles per gallon by the year 2020. Before entering office, Obama was an advocate for environmental issues, arguing that America should raise its fuel economy standard to 40 miles per gallon because many other nations have already enacted that standard.

These new standards would come at a bad time for the auto industry, especially for General

Motors and Chrysler, who after poor sales and a credit freeze, were forced to ask the federal government for billions of dollars in assistance.

Francis Beinecke, president of the Natural Resources Defense Council, issued a statement reacting to Obama’s decision.

“These are monumental decisions that will have an immediate impact in reducing global warming pollution in the United States. Just days into office, Obama is showing America and the world that he will lead our country in a bold new direction to protect the environment and fight global warming.”

Beinecke said. What exactly is global warming? Thomas Friedman, the renowned author of “The Earth is Flat” and New York Times columnist, defines global warming as “the rise in global average temperature.” However, in his new book, “Hot, Flat, and

Crowded” Friedman makes several arguments as to why “going green” is imperative for America’s future as a world leader.

He first mentions America’s dependency on foreign sources of oil as a national security issue, saying that this dependency hinders the U.S. from being able to be a strong, independent world leader.

“That is why going green is no longer simply a hobby for high-minded environmentalists or some ‘personal virtue,’ as [former] Vice President Dick Cheney once sneered. It is now a national security imperative,” Friedman said.

Obama has placed a high priority on enacting conservationist policies, including implementing “green” jobs funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan that has been passed in the House of Representatives and is being deliberated in the Senate. The website of the president, whitehouse.gov,

states that “President Obama and Vice President Biden have a comprehensive plan to invest in alternative and renewable energy, end our addiction to foreign oil, address the global climate crisis and create millions of new jobs.”

The College Sustainability Task Force is an initiative to encourage conservation and sustainability on Hope College’s campus. They are sponsoring campus events such as lectures about conservation, and also the “Trayless Dining” and “No Drive Tuesdays” initiatives. They are encouraging students to not use a tray in Phelps Dining Hall on Tuesdays in order to conserve the water that would be used to wash the trays. Also CSTF has teamed up with Greek Life to promote “No Drive Tuesdays,” asking students to walk or ride their bikes to campus on Tuesdays. These initiatives show the potential for a future green revolution in America.

“Going green...is now a national security imperative.”  
—THOMAS FRIEDMAN  
NEW YORK TIMES COLUMNIST



# Guest poet ‘begs no pardon’

## Lynne Thompson reflects on life, longing and serious self-knowledge for the Jack Ridl Visiting Writers Series

**Andrew Gehl**  
GUEST WRITER

Much to the delight of aspiring authors, questioning listeners and appreciators of the literary art everywhere, the Jack Ridl Visiting Writers Series is returning to Hope College for the spring semester.

Award-winning poet Lynne Thompson kicks off the semester with her performance on Monday, Feb. 16 at the Knickerbocker Theatre. She is an involved member in the Los Angeles poetry community and nationally renowned.

A recent recipient of the Great Lakes College Association’s New Writers Award, Thompson will be sharing from her 2007 collection entitled “Beg No Pardon.” Perugia Press, a nonprofit organization dedicated to establishing new female poets in the allegedly male-favoring field, published Thompson’s book in their continuing effort to encourage skilled, female writing. Thompson’s poems seem to be just that.

“The poems here seduce and confront and refuse to be anonymous — or they revel in



Lynne Thompson

**THOUGHT AND THUNDER — Born and raised in Los Angeles, Thompson now serves as director of employee and labor relations at the University of California, LA.**

the transgressions anonymity affords. They really do beg no pardon,” said one judge of the GLCA New Writers Award. Thompson adroitly writes poems that create mood and conjure images, but she never pushes towards the overly emotional or self-indulgent.

She frequently draws from

her personal history in order to comment on race, childhood, sex, birth and death. Raised in Los Angeles by adoptive parents from the West Indies, Thompson manages to bring a Caribbean mystique to her writing while remaining based in relatable scenes of childhood.

Thompson does not stay in this stage of her life for long; her poems mature in timeline and concept as she comments on the role of the poet, mother and the unique meaning to every common event.

Listeners to Thompson at the upcoming reading will be drawn in by the poet’s effortless voice. She carefully guides her audience through her multidirectional writing pieces, helping to lead from mystical to realistic, despairing to hopeful, and abstract to tangible.

Hope students as well as



COVER COURTESY LYNNE THOMPSON

**AWARD WINNING LIT— ‘Beg No Pardon,’ Thompson’s debut chapbook, is a winner of the GLCA New Writers Award, receiving rave reviews.**

“The poems here seduce and confront and refuse to be anonymous... They really do beg no pardon.

— GLCA JUDGE  
NEW WRITERS AWARD

” In addition, a Q&A session with the author will be taking place in the Herrick Room of the DeWitt Center at 3 p.m.

### THIS WEEK IN ART

- Wednesday****Feb. 4**  
**Coolbeans Entertainment**  
Josh Williams, 9-10 p.m.  
**Knickerbocker Film Series**  
“Pray the Devil Back to Hell,” 7:30 pm
- Friday****Feb. 13**  
**Great Performance Series**  
Aquila Theatre, the Knick 7:30 p.m.
- Monday****Feb. 16**  
**Guest Piano Artist**  
Yukiko Tanaka, Wichers 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday****Feb. 17**  
**Teaching Hope: “ROOTS”**  
Fried-Hemenway Auditorium, 8 p.m.

### IN BRIEF

#### GPS FEATURES THE AQUILA THEATRE

The Hope College Great Performance Series will feature the Aquila Theatre with performances of “The Iliad” on Friday, Feb. 13, and “The Comedy of Errors” on Saturday, Feb. 14, at 7:30 p.m. at the Knickerbocker Theatre in downtown Holland.

Aquila Theatre has won international praise for its innovative presentations of classic drama and returns to Hope College with two outstanding productions.

“The Iliad,” Homer’s epic story of the Trojan War, has had a profound influence on every generation since first performed by ancient Greek bards in the Mediterranean more than 2,500 years ago. Described by *The New York Times* as “a performance of staggering power,” the Aquila Theatre Company’s production of Homer’s “Iliad,” creates a “stunning, stirring, and memorable” theatrical experience. “Backstage” raved, “If you see only one piece of theatre this year – see Aquila’s ‘Iliad.’”

Tickets are on sale at the ticket office in the DeVos Fieldhouse, and for each evening cost \$17 for regular admission, \$12 for senior citizens, and \$6 for children 18 and under. The ticket office is open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and can be called at (616) 395-7890.

#### 21<sup>ST</sup> MUSICAL SHOWCASE TICKETS ON SALE

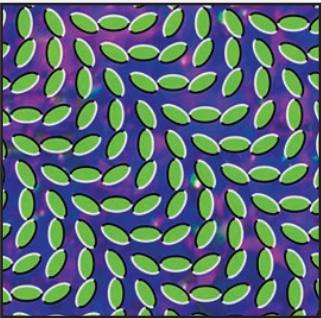
Tickets are available for the 21st annual Hope College Musical Showcase, a fast-paced concert featuring Hope College’s major student music groups, and many smaller ones, on a single stage.

Musical Showcase will be held on Monday, March 9, at 8 p.m. in DeVos Hall in Grand Rapids. Featured will be the Chapel Choir, College Chorus, Jazz Ensemble, Orchestra, Symphonette, and Wind Symphony, as well as soloists and chamber ensembles.

Tickets are \$10 each, and may be ordered through the Hope College Ticket Office located in the DeVos Fieldhouse open weekdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and may be called at (616) 395-7890.

## Have you Heard?

Andrew Gehl reviews Animal Collective’s “Merriweather Post Pavilion”



**Group:** Animal Collective  
**Album:** Merriweather Post Pavilion  
**Released:** 06 Jan, 2009

Calling “Merriweather Post Pavilion” Animal Collective’s most accessible album is like calling the Great Wall of China one of the easier barricades to climb over. Sure, classic pop structures make up a good deal of Merriweather’s songs, and cycling samples and vocal hooks do a fantastic job of grabbing the listener more quickly than any previous album by the band, but Animal Collective remain one of indie music’s most divisive acts.

That being said, “Merriweather Post Pavilion” is brilliant. This is Animal Collective playing to all of their strengths. They’ve successfully trimmed some of the abstractness from their previous work while retaining their bizarreness. Songs like

“My Girls”, “Summertime Clothes”, and “Brother Sport” are so catchy even the most casual listener will forget they’re hearing noises more likely to originate from a prehistoric swamp than a musical instrument (if this album’s any one adjective, it’s squishy). At the same time, no album in recent memory has rewarded repeated listens like this one. It takes dozens of plays to understand how layers of samples flit in and out of prominence.

While they tend to use vocals as another sonic layer, the lyrics can’t be ignored. Just as the music simultaneously lofts with oddities and invites with simplicity, lines touch on everything from simple romance to existential conflict. The messages on “Merriweather” are as various and appealing as the songs.

Even though Animal Collective remain “not for everyone,” this album marks the best jumping-in point for those curious about the band. Coming out in January, “Merriweather Post Pavilion” has already set the bar for music in 2009. While the album doesn’t quite reach perfection, it’s hard to imagine anything even close to this good coming out in the next 12 months.

## Students weigh in on the Oscars

**Megan Harper**  
GUEST WRITER

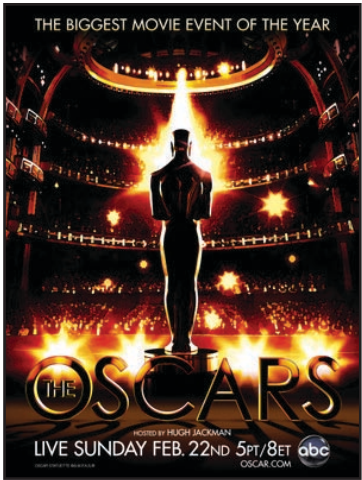
Ah, the Oscars: that time of year when people everywhere pretend to care about obscure foreign films they’ve never heard of (nor can they pronounce), mock outrageous fashions of the stars, and act as if they really do appreciate all those subtle nuances of the flaws of society and human destiny that make films truly timeless.

With that being said, one has to wonder – are the Oscars still culturally relevant? Does anyone really care anymore?

When Hope students were asked which films, actors and directors they thought would take home an Oscar, it was rather discomfiting to see how many of them were completely oblivious. Some confessed that they had never even heard of many of the movies with Oscar buzz, and some were unaware that the Oscars were about to take place.

As Juan Lopez (‘12) stated, “I really don’t know much about any of the actors nominated, so I really couldn’t make a prediction about who will win.”

Some students even claimed that they make it a point not to be informed about the Oscars, since they either dislike the media, or they feel that the Oscars only reflect the interests



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of pretentious snobs, not those of average moviegoers.

Could those students have a point? Have the Oscars lost their touch? Not according to other Hope students. True, the Oscars may not reflect the interests

“Oscar movies have a timeless quality rather than trendy.

— ANNE JAMIESON (‘12)

of an everyday individual; they reflect something more. Paige Holthof (‘12) said, “The Oscars reflect a higher class of movies. These movies have a purpose and connect with the audience in a real way because the characters demonstrate real emotions.”

Anne Jamieson agrees and said, “Oscar movies have a timeless quality rather than a trendy one. They are not movies that are purely for entertainment purposes.”

SEE OSCARS, PAGE 10



# Uncommon concentrations: Pre-law, pre-dental, print and broadcast

Christine Hostetler  
STAFF WRITER

Hope students are ambitious and hard-working. They attack their studies and get to know their professors. Some are changing around their fields of study as college continues on; others are set and determined on a specific career. Not many people may be aware of it, but there are small factions of students headed towards careers that are by no means unique, but that are somewhat rare for Hope College. Among these career paths are pre-law, pre-dental and journalism.

### Pre-Law

The department for Hope College students interested in law or pursuing a legal career to utilize for resources is the Political Science Department. There is a pre-law website that they can check out, linked on knowhope to the Career Services site. They can find contact information listed for pre-law advisors, a listing of law-related classes available to them at Hope College, and information about legal internship opportunities. For those interested in getting off-campus and gaining experience in our nation's capitol, the Poli-Sci Department has a program called the Washington D.C. Honors Semester. Students have held internships with the U.S. Attorney and the American Bar Association among many other incredible opportunities. Other off-campus programs are available locally and in Philadelphia and Chicago.

The best way to further a student's pursuit of a legal career is to join the Pre-Law Club, open to students of all ages and majors. Pre-Law Club organizes different events geared toward informing students about such things as law schools, taking the LSATs, and life as a lawyer. Students have the chance to hear and interact with practicing lawyers and other legal experts through panel discussions and events.

Abigail Gowman ('10) said, "We host a different speakers, as well as activities to help students understand what is expected from them to get into law school and become attorneys."

The Pre-Law Club is headed by a steering committee of four students: Abigail Gowman, Nate Bult ('11), Dustin Miller ('10) and Rylee Hartung ('11). Their advisor is Dr. David Ryden of the Poli-Sci Department.

The club recently took a trip to a law school forum in Chicago. After the forum, they met with a Hope alum who works in a law firm.

Gowman, who is taking the LSATs

soon and who is interested in doing international business or family law, said, "Talking to a Hope alum helped give me a real perspective about the lifestyle most lawyers lead and what kind of responsibilities they have."

### Pre-Dental

For those students interested in the pre-dental arena, Hope offers key prerequisite classes for post-graduate schools. These are listed on the pre-dental website on the knowhope website. Among the basic classes are: general biology and chemistry with labs, organic chemistry with a lab, physics with a lab and finally English. Students can also find links to sites with information about dental schools and requirements for specific schools.

Students looking for a network and a more personal environment can join the Pre-Dental Club. The club was started last year by Doug Fujawa ('09), Matt Ellison ('09) and Jamie Richards ('09). Meetings are held monthly to plan pre-dent activities. The club brings in one to two speakers each semester, raises money as part of a Dance Marathon team, and organizes events like the CASA Program dental hygiene demonstration.

Vice President of the Dental Club Gina VanderVeen ('10) said she was excited to see the flyers around last year for the new club, as a specifically pre-dent-focused organization had not previously existed on Hope's campus.

Said VanderVeen, "The whole purpose is to unify the pre-dent students so they can talk, share and give academic advice... It's brought people out of the woodwork you didn't realize were pre-dent."

VanderVeen talked about two initiatives of the Pre-Dental Club: a Kaplan class and the CASA presentation. Last year, students raised money to bring a Kaplan class for the Dental entrance exams to Hope College. This was a feat as Hope does not have the finances as a small school to bring a class here. The older students who took that class are now acting as mentors to the younger pre-dent students.

"They came to our first meeting and gave us their books and told us strategies... We can ask about the interview and application processes. It has been really helpful!" said VanderVeen.

The CASA presentation is a two-day commitment where pre-dent students give children in the program a presentation on dental hygiene. The club is holding a planning session on Feb. 19 and presenting on Feb. 23 and 24. If pre-dent students are interested, they can send an e-mail to: pre dental@hope.edu.

## Upcoming Offices of Career Services events and opportunities

Wednesday, Feb. 4	Health Careers Fair	10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. in the A. Paul Schaap Science Center Atrium
Thursday, Feb. 5	Resume polishing	8-11 p.m. in the upstairs computer lab in the Martha Miller Center
Thursday, Feb. 12	Job Pursuit event	8:45 a.m.-4 p.m. (must block the whole day) at the Lansing Convention Center in Lansing.
Thursday, Feb. 19	Job search workshop	11-11:50 a.m. in the Offices of Career Services Conference Room
Friday, Feb. 20	Resume prep	11-11:50 a.m. in the Offices of Career Services Conference Room
Tuesday, Feb. 24	West Michigan Career Connections and Career Expo	2-6 p.m. at DeVos Place in Grand Rapids
Thursday, Feb. 26	Interviewing workshop	11 a.m. in the Maas Conference Room
Monday, March 2	Out-of-State Teacher Fair	3:30-6:30 p.m. at the Grand Valley State University Fieldhouse in Allegan.
Wednesday, March 4	Resume polishing	8-11 p.m. in the upstairs computer lab in the Martha Miller Center
Tuesday, April 28	West Michigan Teacher Search	9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Grand Valley State University Fieldhouse in Allegan.

**Ali Thompson**  
GUEST WRITER

Students often spend hours browsing through the pages of the Hope College Course Catalog trying to decide what courses to take and what major to declare, but what should they do if their intended major isn't listed? What resources do students interested in uncommon majors have to help them with their studies?

Within the Communication Department only a handful of students pursue journalism studies under the radar.

Traditionally speaking, journalism comes in two forms: print and broadcast. More recently, with today's major news sources converting to online formats and the exponential number of blogs created every day, media professionals are now introducing Web journalism as the latest addition to the news front.

Students interested in a career in journalism often narrow their interests into smaller subsets like magazines, radio, publishing, television, and multimedia. Compared to large public universities, however, the opportunities for specializing in any particular field of journalism are much more limited at small liberal arts colleges.

Because journalism isn't a separate major at Hope, students have to improvise. They typically declare a communication major or combine it with English and do their best to register for related classes. Fortunately, the journalism courses at Hope are evolving to keep up with the media.

Dr. Teresa Housel has been teaching journalism and communication classes at Hope since the fall of 2005.

"There's always been students interested in journalism here" she said. "I'm trying to get the word out that we have a journalism program."

Since joining the Communication Department faculty, she has helped build up the journalism program at Hope. "Before I got here there was very little continuity," Housel said.

Her most recent accomplishment this year was redesigning the Print Media II course which is offered every spring. The course previously examined media ethics and public relations but now focuses on magazine features writing and layout design.

"It's a more direct continuation of Print Media I," Housel said.

Students in the class pitch story ideas, write articles and design a collective magazine as their final project. Housel encourages her

students to experience all aspects of print journalism.

"I want them to have ownership of it," she said.

The broadcast journalism track is also expanding with the addition of part-time communications professor Jim Korf to the department. With his background in broadcast, he launched a new studio production course this spring.

Korf hopes to bring inspiration and creativity to his production students with the recently built studio set design.

"My hope is to create more activity in it, give it better visibility," Korf said in the January edition of the Communication Department newsletter.

Journalism students can also gain experience through programs outside the classroom. Internships, networking and study abroad opportunities are available to students in a wide range of journalism positions.

Students who register to take internships for credit, either while on campus or abroad, can land placements through a number of media organizations. Organizations like "Saturday Night Live," Seventeen Magazine, Grand Rapids Press, Group Tour Media and Channel 8 News have offered internships to Hope journalism students in the past.

The Office of Career Services helps equip students with employment and furthering educational resources. Dale Austin, the director of Career Services, reminds students to look into all their options.

"People aren't clued into professional associations, and it can be a very helpful resource," he said.

For journalism students, the American Society of Magazine Editors is a popular professional organization. Different magazines around the country are members, but student membership is considered only during the fall of junior year. Students who get accepted into this highly competitive association are placed as paid interns at national magazines, typically serving as editorial assistants.

Austin encourages students from all major to visit with someone in Career Services. He wants people to feel welcome asking questions.

"Students feel like they have to have everything in a nice tiny bundle," Austin said. "But all you have to do is come in and say, 'I need help.'"

## More resources for journalism students

Career Reference Tools:  
Encyclopedia of Associations (VanWylen Library)  
Associations indexed in a variety of ways  
Provides career information, job openings and national conventions

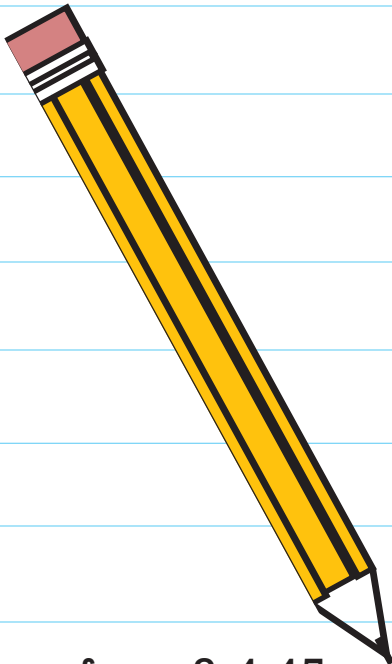
Spotlight on Careers Web site  
([www.spotlightoncareers.org](http://www.spotlightoncareers.org))  
Through Career Services homepage  
Over 4 million organizations indexed by topic and location  
Provides contacts, descriptions, competitors and graduate fellowships

Vault Online Career Library ([www.vault.com/index](http://www.vault.com/index))  
Through Career Services homepage  
Download over 70 comprehensive industry guides (free for students)  
Take occupation surveys and search for internships



**The Office of Career Services  
is located in the 8th Street Building**

**Get help with resumes, mock inter-  
views, finding an internship or even  
a job!**



**Drop in hours from 3-4:45 p.m.**



Change for tradition’s sake

Do you speak Mozart?

Katie Bennett  
Co Editor-in-Chief



Music is not a universal language. This is one thing I’ve come to understand in my four years as a music major at Hope. Ironically, I used to think it was and I went into music originally believing that I was speaking the language that went beyond language, the language that everyone could understand.

But it was music history classes that changed my mind about this. We used to listen to Haydn symphonies as part of our assignments (You know Haydn. Kind of upbeat and happy. Pre-Mozart Austrian court music. People were probably wearing pastels and lace.) Then we’d read contemporary reviews of his concerts. Often, the reviews would express shock or alarm or sadness at Haydn’s music that my class just did not hear. Within Haydn’s culture, his music said something other than “listen to that nice little piano piece.” We simply don’t speak his language well enough to hear what his audiences heard: his daring newness, his excitement, his grief.

On an international scale, different cultures don’t even agree on which sounds are pretty and which sounds are discordant. Tertian harmonies, the 12-note scale, major and minor arpeggios, these are all inventions of the West. In medieval times, monks harmonized only in fourths. This makes most medieval chant sound a little creepy to modern ears. In some cultures, the throbbing swell that we hear when two notes clash is beautiful. To our ears, it just sounds wrong.

It strikes me that although music may not be the international language, it certainly is a language of sorts. After

all, music, like other languages is a vehicle to express human emotion. We sing, rap, play, drum about the same things no matter who or where or when we are: love, death, celebration, love, frustration, did I mention love? These things are the great equalizers, the things we all have in common. When we say we don’t “like” some genre of music, aren’t we simply saying we don’t speak that language? That we don’t express emotion that way? If we think Mozart’s music is boring, it’s because we don’t get it enough to know what he was really saying. If we hate rap, it’s because we prefer a different expression of the same feelings.

The fact is: none of it is bad. I supposed we can argue that some music is harder to produce than other music, or that some music expresses more of the things we’re feeling at the moment. But ultimately, all music does the same thing.

I think we should value bilingualism in music like we do in other languages. No one ever says “Oh I don’t like Japanese,” so why should any of us say, “I don’t like country”? The bias amounts to the same thing: a willingness to be shut out of that culture. From now on I’ll answer truthfully when someone asks me: “To be honest, I don’t speak country. But I’m willing to learn.”

*Katie has just discovered the sauna in the Dow. Why don’t more people do this? What better way to get warm?*

Myths, tricks and train wrecks

What do you have to say for yourself?

Erika English  
Columnist



The concept of reusable products is not new in our culture, or in our relationships. We often leave one relationship and enter another feeling a bit more used, with a little less carbonation, a little emptier. But is there ever a point where we just need to stop opening up? When do you call it quits? Like breaking a habit, it’s a process, but is there ever a point when it’s practical to go cold turkey with a relationship? Can you quit a person?

The telltale signs of a sour relationship often mirror that of an open gallon of milk. The date is expired. The aroma is less sweet, something just isn’t right. The curdled elements aren’t smooth anymore, but bumpy and gut-wrenching. We dump out the contents, stare as they flow down the drain, and hold our breaths trying to remember how it got to be there in the first place. And even if it’s the only thing in our empty refrigerators, it’s so easy to run to more convenient excuses for why we fall into a pattern of neglect.

I had a high school teacher once tell me that excuses are like butts, everyone has one and they all stink. But really, don’t we all make excuses for our behavior? And are excuses always a bad thing? They always say to walk a mile in another person’s shoes, but if we can’t do that shouldn’t someone explain their behavior to us? Explain their situation, motivation, even history? What’s that subtle difference between explaining and excusing? And how much are we willing to accept

from those we are in relationship with? As children we make excuses for late homework assignments, or why the cookie jar is empty. As adults, we make the same excuses for why the business plan wasn’t typed up on time, why we broke a heart, and even why the cookie jar is still empty.

Maybe the worst excuses of all aren’t those we use to cover our tracks or explain ourselves to other people, but those we make to ourselves. How often we find ourselves wrapped in our own red tape only to insist we have a legitimate excuse. You see, we like to keep our excuses close to heart—that’s why the most dangerous excuses are those pertaining to matters of the heart. Better yet, when we realize we are the only ones who got us to that point in rotten relationships, all we have left to do is blame.

And so we blame our relationships—the expired milk that left us sour. We blame them for the fact we’ve lost a piece of ourselves. We blame them for ruining our futures. We stop opening up because we’ve let ourselves be drained before. And the moment we start to pin the fault on the donkey, the funny thing is we become the ass.

*Erika English would like to thank Lake Country Lutheran High School’s staff and students (past and present) for all their inspirations. Congratulations on the new building!*

Hope College Kool-Aid

Lisa King  
Columnist



Dear God, I’ve drunk the Kool-Aid...

Hope College is a college of categories. You have your jocks, your techs, your outsiders, loners, socials, semi-socials, newbies, geeks, cool geeks, geeks with a hobby, geeks without a hobby, geeks with boyfriends and girlfriends, shooter gamers, RPG gamers, frats, sororities, seniors, freshman, cults, WOW-ers, D and D-ers. Let’s not forget about your music majors, chemistry majors, dance majors, English majors, Japanese majors, Japan Club, unions, associations, the Anchor, the floaters, the totally oblivious, The Pull, Nykerk, The Dew Crew.

To all you transfer students out there

who feel as I did; lost, confused, and that you somehow missed out on the Kool-Aid being passed around; YOU ARE NOT ALONE. There are others like you in the same position; others who are just as mystified by this bizarre society known as Hope College and just pray that it gets easier.

I have yet to learn all the guidelines surrounding the how and whys of the Hope cliques; however, I have been gathering information concerning the interactions of these groups. I wanted to know: how do they operate? Who pulls the strings above the dangling puppet that resides so well and ambiguous among the other non-descripts of the school? Unfortunately, I recently experienced such interaction.

A few months ago, Japan Club deliberated. It was the start of the year; attendance was low. We did not receive the influx of freshmen the club had anticipated for its survival. Funds were becoming non-existent. To some, it looked as though the bigger sister-organizations would swoop in and swallow us whole until our existence as a club was nothing more than a portion of our remaining mem-

bers sitting in a dorm room, watching anime. \*shivers\* We went from one week of having an average of 20 attendees to only five. There had to be a reason for the drastic decrease in membership... It was then that I discovered the source of our problem.

Japan Club relies heavily on the support of certain cliques—most notably, Role-Players. Those often deeply rooted into the RPG aspect of life, typically relish in all things Japanese. However, as luck would have it, their gatherings are the same day and time as Japan Club. Every week, they meet, they play, they do strange things with dice. I’m not entirely sure, yet I knew our path to survival had something to do with these unique individuals and their gaming ways.

I find myself wondering how I became a servant to these people. I spent the first three weeks of the semester lobbying for them to change their meeting date, offering rewards for their participation, begging their girlfriends to put in good words for me. When did I become this pathetic? I am no master manipulator here! How

far do I take this? Will I have to join the cult, become some kind of mage, elf, or swordsman just to get my point across that we need them? How do I balance my club duties with the total exploitation of an entirely different clique?!

I am at an end. I am becoming the thing I fear most at this school—a clique leader. I am doing what should not be done; trying to overtake a precious commodity to Hope. Without strange oddities such as Role-Players, gamers and geeks, Hope College would cease to be bearable. Normality would run rampant and individuality would disperse into nothingness. I find myself done, alone, worn out, spent. They can do what they want now; I will pressure them no longer. I am not a puppet master. I am just an outsider, a geek, a dancer, piano player, song girl, Japanese major. My only parting words to this column, “Dear God, I drank the kool aid...”

*Lisa King is a business management and Japanese major; She fights crime in the cover of darkness.*

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# Letter to the Editor

## Respect the space, respect the staff

To the Editors:

Every week Phelps staff work on the bowls that hold the napkins and salt & pepper shakers, but by Monday there is only the pepper shakers left. Where did the salt shakers go? One theory is that gremlins came and took them, or maybe they have feet and walked off on their own. If there were a way to put signs on them to keep them in the bowls, I would make them, but sometimes the bowls are even missing.

I'm beginning to think there must be rabbits running around on the lower level because we find so many carrots on the floor when we go to clean tables. Maybe the students assume we are their wait staff because of all the dirty glasses and trays that are left on the tables along with the bottles of hot sauce that students use on their food. Would these students expect their mom's to pick up for them if they were at home?

We try to keep the dining hall as clean as possible, but need your help. On several occasions I have had to pick up wadded napkins and baby carrots off the floor before the students can vacuum. The flowers are another matter. Please remember that it takes our time to put all this stuff on the tables for you to enjoy, and I don't feel that they should end up on the floor or be taken.

Your Hostess,  
Rosemary Bannerman

# LÁSZLÓ TOKÉS AWARD

“The Bible says that when you become a Christian your mind is renewed, and so with that renewing of your mind comes a new view of the world in which you live.”

~ Laszlo Tokes

Laszlo Tokes has written that Christianity involves a renewing of our minds that leads us to view the world in which we live from a new perspective, informed by our Christian faith and convictions. This essay offers you the opportunity to explore how your Christian faith impacts and informs your view of an issue in this world. It asks you to apply a biblical Christian worldview to the issue or topic that you choose to address. This award includes two scholarships of \$750 and will be awarded to the two rising seniors who write the best essays addressing a current issue or world situation from a Christian perspective. If you are currently a junior, you are invited to write an essay for this award.

Section of previous winning essay: from Nicole Brace ('07), whose essay title was “The Body and the Bread: Toward a Christian Theology and Ethic of Eating” :

“For if Christians are united in Jesus Christ, who is the “Bread of Life” (John 6), the “fullness of God in bodily form” and the one about whom the Apostle Paul says “in Him all things hold together” (Colossians 1), could not we seek to live a collective theology that is more connected to this wholeness which is present in Christ? Could we live a life that is more in keeping with our identity as people who eat the Lord’s Supper and invite others to the table? Perhaps then God would use such people to take physical and spiritual bread to others in need.”

Nicole’s words of wisdom for future entrants:

Writing an essay like this gives you a chance to hold a hard question or issue up to the light and examine it-- with God, yourself, and others in mind. There is no one “right” topic, so wrestle with something that matters to you personally. If it troubles, compels, delights, or intrigues you, you’re probably onto something rich.

Brandon Smith ('09), who wrote on family, says:

Throughout the writing process, God has encouraged me to hope once again in good news. In a time when all creation is groaning—marriages failing, kids rebelling, churches dividing, forgiveness lacking—I still dare to hope that God is at work putting to right all that is wrong. I now truly believe that a Christ-centered family can bring hope to the larger community that oneness, reconciliation, and mutual love is possible.

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS FRIDAY,  
FEBRUARY 20

# From the inside out

Brittany Adams  
Features Editor



## When words are enough

Words are to language what atoms are to matter; one could not exist without the other. As an English and French double-major, words are forever on my mind. Words are my tools, my gift, my currency.

Yet I'm amazed by how I spend my words. I would imagine that at least 99 percent of the words I utter daily are useless. I've been thinking about the times when my words have really meant something. Not surprisingly, I can't recall too many of them.

One time that came to mind was over two years ago in October. I was a chatting with a friend on the phone when she mentioned that she had heard that a friend of mine had died that day in a car accident. I remember my brain going numb, unable to process the reality that my friend was gone. Suddenly my appetite for conversation was gone, and I didn't know what to do with myself. I wandered around, sporadically bursting into tears at the thought of it.

The existentialist panic that strikes at moments like these forced me to face my own mortality—and the mortality of those I love. Realizing that I might not get another opportunity, I decided to use the moment to tell someone how much I cared about him.

I'm sure my experience isn't unique; probably most people have experienced something traumatic that led them to slow down and take some time to honor the people that make their life worth living.

But by and large, this isn't an everyday affair. The link between tragedy and sentiments of significance is a tragedy in itself. I honestly think a lot of it links back to fear.

Even right now, as I write this, there are people I would love to tell how much they mean to me, but I am scared either of sounding creepy or overly sentimental or finding that they simply mean more to me than I do to them. I can't help but wonder how many other people there are out there with the same hidden fears.

Words are frightening because they have the power to change things. As little kids we learn that obnoxious rhyme, “Sticks and stones can break my bones but words can never hurt me.” I honestly don't know why people teach this to children; it's a complete lie (much like Santa Claus, although the effects of this one last much longer). Words hurt; words hurt tons. They wound us in arguments, in lies, in rejection, in diagnoses, in insincerity. But the real strength in words is that they aren't fatal; they simply leave wounds.

But words can also be a source of great strength. Think about Martin Luther King, Jr.'s “I Have a Dream” speech or Patrick Henry's “Give me liberty, or give me death”; those words had the power to change the course of American history. But even on a smaller scale, the power of words is incredible.

Two Christmases ago, I spent some time before the holiday writing letters to let them know how much I loved them and was grateful for their love and support in my life. Christmas morning I handed them out, but most of my family either couldn't or wouldn't read them—those letters made them cry. My sister said to me, “Way to go, Brittany. You made everyone cry on Christmas.”

When I think about it, it's kind of crazy that those letters caused such a reaction. I love those people every day, and that doesn't make them cry. Putting that love into words, however, overwhelmed them.

There's something undeniable about words that really resonates with people; sometimes, actions aren't enough.

Brittany is excited to make Valentines with her lovely roommate.

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# Obama causes millions to gather; ‘Obamob’ creates unique experience

◆ **OBAMOB**, from page 3

clapped. It was beautiful. Oprah cried on my shoulder. Hope Republican Jordan Fuller lamented the cold, yet expressed his excitement. “I stood for ten hours, it was extremely crowded, but it was one of the best experiences of my life,” he said. This coming from a conservative.

Traveling home resembled scenes from I AM LEGEND or Cloverfield, depending on one’s taste of disaster films. Streets and intersections surrounding the Mall were packed sidewalk to sidewalk. Trash became another layer of pavement. Standing atop the L’Efant Metro Station escalators (a central hub for inauguration travel), uniformed soldiers yelled to the angry and weary crowds, exhorting them to practice patience. In that moment, I wasn’t sure if the constant tugging on my jacket was due to the suffocatingly bunched multitudes or the unraveling fabric of social order. My group and I successfully boarded the first available metro and miraculously made it home. Others took advantage of the closed-to-traffic bridges and walked

it home themselves. For most everyone, the day was over, but mine was getting its second wind.

There are numerous benefits of interning on Capitol Hill; networking, resume content, free food, Inauguration tickets, and Inaugural Ball tickets, too. I arrived at the Michigan State Society Ball (in the striking American History Museum) in a three piece suit and an appetite for the open bar and buffet. By agreeing to

volunteer during the Ball, I had avoided purchasing a \$200-ticket. However, according to one attendee from Florida, the Michigan Ball was lacking. “This is the cheapest ticket in town,” he said, “last night at the Florida Ball, they had the Four Tops...it was like \$400 a person.” The decimation of traditional sponsors GM and Ford meant that Ball organizers had to do more with less, but one could hardly notice.

Although Obama didn’t show (he wasn’t expected to), Michigan political heavyweights made their presence known. Rep. Upton and Sen. Stabenow jumped on stage, one brandishing rocker horns while the other bumped. Ethan Morrical, a Hope Junior, danced with Gov. Granholm. “She can hold a beat well enough,” Morrical said, “but she tends to lead to her left too much.” Congressional staffers schmoozed with politicians and citizens alike, and my Congressman jested that I better “not enjoy myself too much.”

The numbers from Inauguration day are staggering. 1.5 million travelers rode the city’s subway, 1.8 million people braved the 30F cold, and the State of Virginia is submitting DC a \$7 million receipt for inauguration related expenses. Vendors have exhausted their supplies of Obama-stamped hats, Ts, books, tags, buttons, calendars, and condoms. The city is breathing a well-deserved sigh of relief. One question, though, remains in the back of many politico minds. Would McCain’s party have been this big?

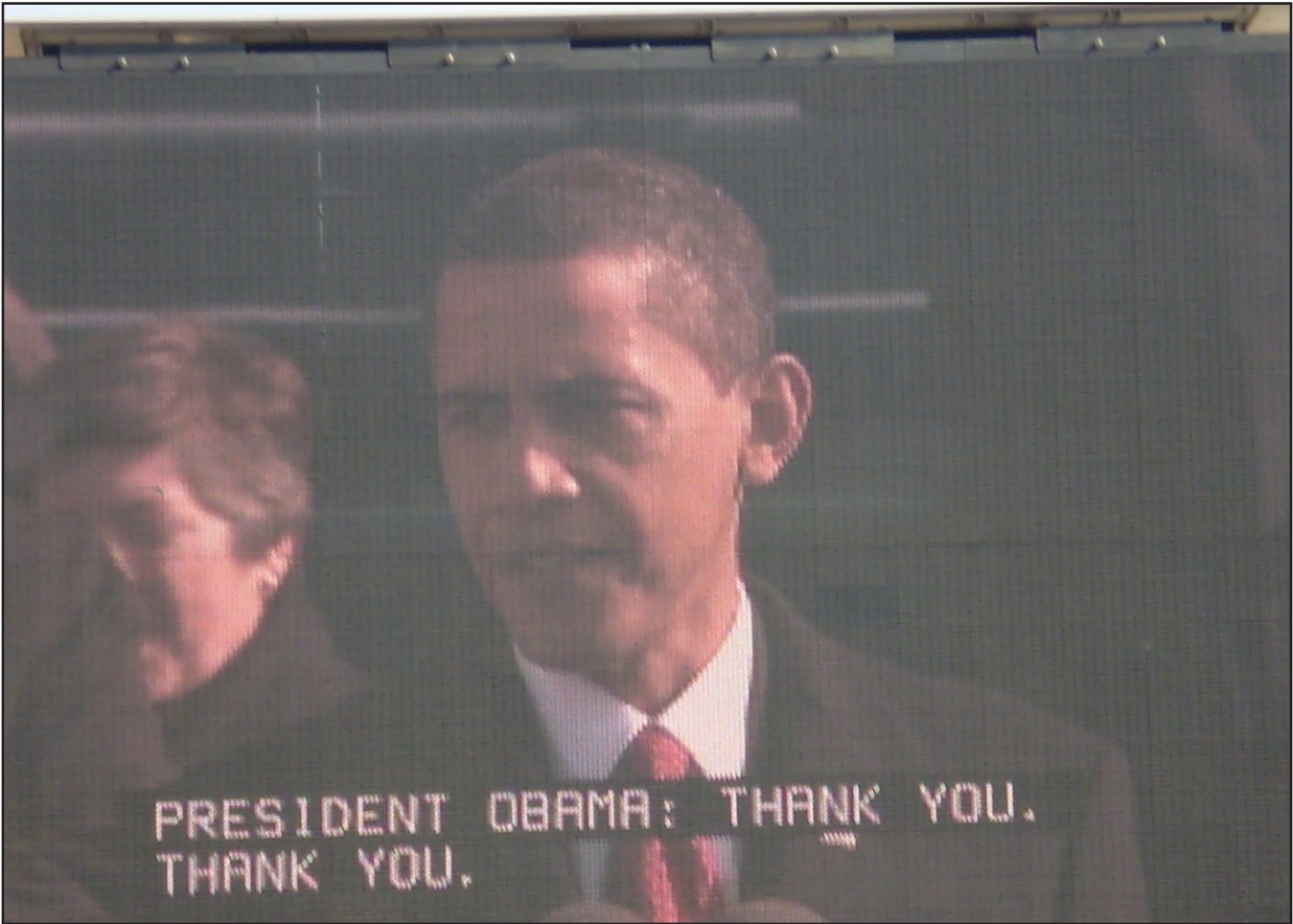


PHOTO BY JOE SEYMOUR

## Inauguration costs high, driven by price of security

◆ **COSTS**, from page 4

Regardless of what recent media reports have stated, it will not be until April when the full costs of the inauguration are realized and disclosed by the Federal Election Committee.

For now, Hope College history professor Fred Johnson urges Americans to reflect on the monumental event.

“America’s never had a day like it,” said Johnson. “For this man to be standing at the top of

this building, built by slaves, is astonishing. Things have come full circle.”

Johnson was disheartened by the media reports claiming Obama’s inauguration was over celebrated and financed.

“There’s ideology, and there’s nation. You can disagree with the ideology, but this was a great day for the nation,” Johnson said. “They (Democrats and Republicans) all could celebrate.”

## Sudan president could be charged with genocide

◆ **SUDAN**, from page 3

but I honestly don’t know what they will do. They will feel obliged to lash out in some way. Some of them are saying ‘give the bastards a good kicking.’” There have already been several threats made against U.N. officials and aid- agencies in the Sudan by those who remain faithful

to the government. According to Holmes, there are contingency plans set in plac for the removal of aid workers once the decision is made in the next month.

The dilemma at hand is weighing the options between justice and peace. One is left pondering which will result in the least amount of bloodshed.

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## The Oscars get a Hope review; students give mixed reactions

◆ **OSCARS**, from page 5

Many students seemed to agree that Oscar movies do not always evoke a positive emotion within the viewer; rather, they make the audience feel passionate about the fate of the characters and feel lost in a world utterly unlike their own. The movie and actors must work side by side in order to create a relatable story and sympathetic characters.

While many Hope students admit to not keeping up with the Oscars, many of them do

still believe that they remain culturally relevant. They reflect the ever-changing feel of film over the years, and since movies are still a very big part of pop culture, they deserve to have an award to recognize ones that are genuinely notable. While they may only reflect the interests of those with more refined taste in movies, Hope seems to agree, overall, that the Oscars remain an important part of our culture, and interest in the Oscars is, as with Oscar movies, truly timeless.

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TITLE IX

Club sports look to move up to varsity status, but finances and laws may stand in the way

Karen Patterson  
Co-Sports Editor

Chris O'Brien  
Guest Writer

An imaginary line was all that separated the orange and blue from the maroon and gold. The two sides were screaming and even banging on the glass, like caged animals trying to escape onto the ice. The hockey game had ended in a tie after regulation and was now headed into a shoot out.

The ice arena was packed with fans, primarily Hope students, all of whom had seemed to have forgotten about the tragic loss in basketball just hours ago. Here they all were cheering on their hockey team, hanging onto every second that Ryan Kelly ('09) skated towards the goal.

Kelly made his move, fired the puck past the goalie and into the goal. The crowd erupted in cheers, banging on the glass even louder. The hockey team celebrated together and the basketball loss from earlier had now been erased from everyone's memory. Hope College hockey may be a club sport by name, but this evening had every feeling of a big-time varsity game.

Club Sports

Club sports at Hope are well known by those who participate, but much of the student body is unaware of their existence, or knows little about them. At Hope club sports are run and organized with the college's support. While the most well-known are the men's hockey team and the men's and women's lacrosse teams, the school also boasts a sailing crew and an ultimate frisbee squad.

Club sports are not unique to Hope, however. Across the nation there are an estimated 2 million college students participating in club sports compared to the 430,000 that play on a varsity athletic team governed by the NCAA. One reason for the rise in club sports has been the increase in America's youth sports culture. Millions of high school students across the country play on first-rate travel teams in high schools but fewer than 5 percent are able to play a varsity sport in college. Club sports become a way for these students with extensive knowledge and skill to

stay active in their sport.

However, club sports are not an offshoot of the varsity programs. They fall under the umbrella of Student Development, much like SAC or Greek Life. The school provides a budget to each team, but there are also many outside costs that are not covered under the budget.

Similar to varsity sports, though, each sport has a national or regional governing body of some kind. In the same way that varsity coaches have national conventions to go over scheduling, rule changes, and general policy, these governing bodies do the same for club sports. They also host a championship tournament at the end of each season, giving the players extra incentive to perform their best.

Players in high school are even recruited to play these non-varsity sports at Hope College. Hockey coach Chris Van Timmeren said he has actively recruited most of the 27 players on the team.

"If you talked to the players on the team right now, you would get an answer from everyone of them that hockey was a very big reason why they came to Hope," Van Timmeren said.

There have actually been very few cases where players have decided to go play varsity some place else rather than come play on a club team at Hope.

"I'm sure that there have been players who are good enough to play varsity that may have said, 'you know, I would rather try my angles with a varsity program before I went to a non-varsity program,'" Van Timmeren said, "but I would say those cases are small." Van Timmeren reinforces the issue to the players he recruits that they need to choose Hope not solely because of the hockey team. "They need to know that the most important reason they're coming to Hope is the education," Van Timmeren said. "If they can play hockey as well, then that's a bonus."

Title IX

While many students who attended high school and college since 1972 have heard the words "Title IX" before, most could not tell you what it is, much less how it has indirectly impacted their lives. Title IX was put into place

to help prevent the discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs receiving federal funding. Since athletics are considered to be an important part of a school's education program, they fall under this law.

In accordance to the law, the athletic interests and abilities of male and female students must be equally and effectively accommodated. This includes looking at the selection of sports that are offered as well as the level of competition and opportunity for each team.

Another key component to Title IX is that the underrepresented sex on a campus cannot be disadvantaged. Also, schools are required to respond accordingly to the interests of students capable of intercollegiate competition who belong to the underrepresented sex.

At a glance it would seem that Hope is breaking the rules of Title IX by delaying the hockey team from becoming a varsity sport. Hope's enrollment is roughly 60-40, female to male; however, the football team carries roughly 140 players, putting the balance of male athletes to female athletes approximately 350 to 200.

"If you were to take away the football program, it would make things fairly equal," men's athletic director Ray Smith said. "Any small school that has a football team is going to have disproportionate numbers of men to women."

Between all the fine print and regulations, though, the school is moving towards adding both hockey and lacrosse to its list of varsity sports.

"Last spring we had a meeting with all the athletic directors and presidents in the league and it was proposed that the MIAA begin league play in 2010 or 2011," Smith continued. "Six months later things have changed. With the economy the way it is, that's not going to happen."

Smith added that lacrosse has been put back on the table, but the start up cost for either lacrosse teams or hockey is roughly \$250,000, a hefty chunk of change during an economic crunch.

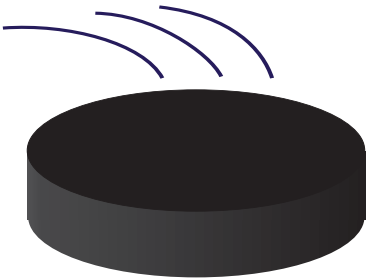
"All of a sudden what seemed plausible last spring seems almost impossible right now," Smith said.

Lacrosse

It would seem in some ways that lacrosse is on the fast track to becoming a varsity sport, something that both coaches are eager for. For the women, it would mean the addition of a head coach, something that acting-coach and president



GRAPHICS BY GWEN MACIVER



Tracy Benjamin ('09) would love to see happen.

"Women's lacrosse is really in a transition stage right now. We don't have a coach and we've never had one, so being varsity would be great because it would be the school's responsibility to find a coach and take care of all the details," Benjamin said.

With no head coach for the women, Benjamin acts as the president for the women's team, serving as a liaison to the school, acting in a similar manner as the Pull representatives or Nykerk Chair do.

"Coaches attend conventions and learn new skills and drills. Also, it's hard being the president because I have to plan and run practices but I'm also a player," Benjamin said.

For the men, becoming varsity would help to strengthen the program.

"We operate under a virtual varsity system right now where we abide by all the NCAA rules, both in and out of season," head men's lacrosse coach Mike Schanhals said.

Within the MLCA are both Division II schools as well as Division III. If the men's team were to have NCAA Division III status, the largest impact would be on the teams played. "The competitive aspect would be similar to the top teams in our conference now, but we wouldn't have to play schools that can offer scholarships anymore," Schanhals said.

Another perk to both teams would be the cutback on personal costs to the players. Each member of the teams has to pay dues (roughly \$600 for the men and \$60 for the women), as well as equipment costs, which can run all the way up to \$500.

Where do we go from here?

All in all, both lacrosse teams as well as the hockey team are eager to gain varsity status. While there are some bumps that need to be smoothed out—Title IX regulations and funding—the school is working hard to try and meet the student body's interests and needs.

"When you have kids on campus that want to play right now, two years seems like a long time," Smith concluded. "But we'd rather wait and do this the right way than rush into something."

THIS WEEK IN SPORTS

Wednesday Feb. 4  
Women's basketball  
vs. Rochester 7:30 p.m.

Saturday Feb. 7  
Men's basketball  
vs. Kalamazoo 3 p.m.  
Hockey  
vs. Davenport 9:10 p.m.

Wednesday Feb. 11  
Women's Basketball  
vs. Trine 7:30 p.m.

Saturday Feb. 14  
Women's Basketball  
vs. Adrian 3 p.m.

IN BRIEF

SMITH TO RETIRE

Ray Smith announced Jan. 22 that he will be retiring as the men's athletic director at the end of the current school year. Smith first came to Hope in 1970 as the football coach and has spent his time at the school both coaching, teaching and serving at the men's athletic director. He has earned numerous awards and recognitions in his time at Hope, including being inducted to the College Football Hall of Fame.

MEN'S BASKETBALL  
MOVES FORWARD

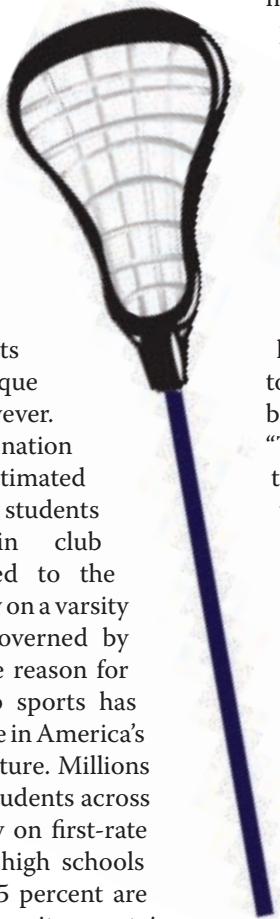
The Flying Dutchmen have put together an impressive win streak, winning three games in the last two weeks. Victories over Adrian, Trine, and Olivet have kept the team at the top of the race for the MIAA with rival Calvin. Jesse Reimink ('09) led the team with a total of 65 points over the three games. He has led the Flying Dutchmen in scoring for 19 straight games. The team will battle for the top spot in the MIAA at and against rival Calvin College on Wednesday Feb. 11 at 7:30 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL  
REMAINS STRONG

The Flying Dutch have powered ahead to take hold of sole possession of the MIAA conference rankings after toppling St. Mary's. The 84-59 win marked the 41st consecutive victory at DeVos Fieldhouse. Over the last four games, Carrie Snickers ('11) has led the team, scoring 62 points.

MIAA  
PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Carrie Snickers ('11) is being honored this week by the MIAA as the Player of the Week. Snickers scored 31 points in two games last week to help the Flying Dutch claim two victories and the top spot in the MIAA standings. This is her second time being honored this season.





SWIMMING & DIVING

Teams aim for the top as busy season concludes

**Kat Mojzak**  
GRAPHICS EDITOR

The Hope men’s and women’s swimming and diving teams have had a busy two weeks. It started with the back-to-back dual meets versus Grand Valley and rival Calvin College, and then the home meet versus Olivet took place on Saturday. This busy schedule is good preparation for the league meet, which is three days of prelims and finals.

“In order to succeed at the end of the season we’re going to have to be able to swim fast back-to-back-to-back days. This past weekend gave coaches and captains a lot of confidence that it is possible for everyone,” captain Matt Rose (’10) said.

The Flying Dutchmen came out this series of meets 2-1; losing to division 2 team, Grand

Valley. The highlight had to be swimming in Calvin’s just finished pool, which is part of the new 360,000 square foot Spoelhof Field house.

“Swimming at Calvin’s new pool was great! It’s got pretty much everything you look for in a fast pool, and I think that was reflected pretty well in our times on Saturday. It’s fitting of course for Calvin to hold their first dual meet in the new pool against us and I’m glad we were the ones to ‘break it in,” Rose said.

Unfortunately, the Flying Dutch didn’t fare as well going 1-2 in this three meet run. Taking a heartbreaking loss to main rival for the MIAA title, Calvin.

“It was a bummer to lose the meet, but our team handled it really well,” captain Brittaney Reest-Delo (’09) said. “Overall,

we had a lot of great swims and dives, and we had a lot of fun competing.”

Both the men and the women are now focusing their attention on the rest of the season.

“Our main goal for the rest of the season is to give it all we’ve got and to have a ton of fun while doing it. The most important thing is the team, and as long as we are supporting each other and doing what we love, we will have had a successful season,” Reest-Delo said.

The men are coming into the league meet as the MIAA champions and are ready to defend that title.

“For the most part the team has been right on track the last couple of weeks, and I wouldn’t be surprised at all to see a few school records and MIAA records fall at the league meet,” Rose said.

The MIAA Championship meet will take place Feb. 19-21 hosted by Saint Mary’s at Notre Dame.

“We’re going to have to be able to swim fast back-to-back-to-back days.”

—MATT ROSE (’10)

”

TRACK & FIELD

First indoor meet shows promise

**Colton Wright**  
GUEST WRITER

These long Holland winters can get annoying, but they do not distract the UnderArmour clad runners.

It is just an intensity booster for them.

Whether it is on snow-covered streets and sidewalks for the distance runners, the tight confines of the Dow for the throwers, or a combination of the Dow, Devos, cleared streets and the tennis center for the sprinters and jumpers, the Flying Dutch track and field teams are finding a way to train.

“We learn to be flexible with regards to facilities,” said Jeff Minkus (’10), co-captain and jumper.

Minkus noted his teammate’s patience as key to dealing with the calamities of winter. They are too focused on preparing for their two conference meets in April and May to care about the slushy snow and face-freezing winds of winter.

“We normally just train

outside with long runs and hill repeats,” distance captain Sarah Multer (’09) said. “We have also started doing plyo(metrics) in the gym to change things up once a week. We train right now in order to build up a base that will transfer to the outdoor season.”

Until their official NCAA track and field season starts, the team continues to monitor their level of readiness with four indoor invitationals during the winter.

“We use the indoor meets as an intense workout and to help us adjust to competition situations,” Minkus said. “Every opportunity to compete is going to help us, so we value the opportunities and experiences that these indoor meets give us.”

If last Saturday’s experience at their first indoor invitational was any foreshadowing of the coming season, Calvin needs to take note. With just a partial team of sprinters and jumpers, Hope took third in the 17-team Ted Metzger Invitational held

at Carthage College. Many of the competing teams had been practicing for a month longer than the Flying Dutch and had even competed in multiple meets.

That did not matter especially to sprinting co-captain Nora Kuiper (’09). Kuiper broke the meet record in the 55m with a time of 7.13 seconds and won the 200m. Nobody came close to Kuiper’s performance. Her preliminary 55m time would have even beaten the second place finisher. Her time was also the second fastest for a Division III athlete in 2009.

“No one can overlook Nora Kuiper’s performance,” said sprinter Chaz Shelton (’09). “She was absolutely stellar, and I have never seen her start a season so strong.”

Other notable performances included James Colten’s (’11) personal record at 13 feet in the pole vault, Nick Rinck’s (’11) second place finish in the 55m hurdles, and Jeff Minkus’ second place finish in the triple jump.

The Scorebox

Flying Dutchmen:

Grand Valley 148.5 Hope 76.5

Hope 171 Calvin 95

Hope 159 Olivet 129

Flying Dutch

Grand Valley 156.5 Hope 77.5

Calvin 173 Hope 127

Hope 168 Olivet 125



PHOTO BY ALISON GARZA

**LOVING IT—** Track distance runners (L to R) Carl Dunker (’11), Nate Love (’12), Lucas Wolthuis (’10), Susan Savasky (’11) and Sarah Multer (’09) push through the cold with smiles on their faces in preparation for upcoming meets.

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